
APPENDIX C

AGFD CORRESPONDENCE

November 7, 2005

Mr. Bob Broscheid
Project Evaluation Program Supervisor
Arizona Game & Fish Department
WMHB – Project Evaluation Program
2222 West Greenway Road
Phoenix, Arizona 85023

**RE: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING ARIZONA SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES
AND HABITAT RELATED ISSUES**

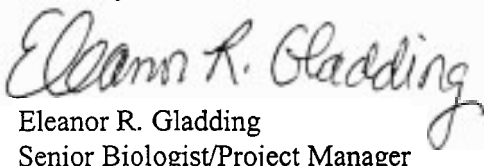
Dear Mr. Broscheid:

The project area shown in the attached figure is approximately 164 acres of lands owned by the Bureau of Reclamation and is located near the city of Peoria in Maricopa County, Arizona. These lands are located along the western banks of Lake Pleasant and in Sections 7 and 8 of Township 6 North, Range 1 East. These lands are proposed for the development of a marina and are being evaluated to determine the potential for the presence of any sensitive species and their habitat. SWCA has been contracted to complete a biological evaluation of the project area to determine whether federally listed, proposed, candidate, or other special status species or their habitat exist in the project area. This biological evaluation is being conducted to meet compliance with the Endangered Species Act.

This correspondence is a request for information concerning special status species potentially occurring in the geographical area that encompasses the project area. We also invite comments on habitat-related issues or any other concerns which your agency may have regarding future development of this area.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (602) 274-3831. We appreciate your assistance and respectfully request your response as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Eleanor R. Gladding
Senior Biologist/Project Manager

enclosure



THE STATE OF ARIZONA
GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

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November 9, 2005

Ms. Eleanor R. Gladding
SWCA
2120 N. Central Ave.
Suite 130
Phoenix, AZ 85004

Re: Special Status Species Information for **Township 6 North, Range 1 East, Section 7 and 8; Proposed Marina Development.**

Dear Ms. Gladding:

The Arizona Game and Fish Department (Department) has reviewed your request, dated November 7, 2005, regarding special status species information associated with the above-referenced project area. The Department's Heritage Data Management System (HDMS) has been accessed and current records show that the special status species listed on the attachment have been documented as occurring in the project vicinity (3-mile buffer). In addition this project does not occur in the vicinity of any Proposed or Designated Critical Habitats.

The Department's HDMS data are not intended to include potential distribution of special status species. Arizona is large and diverse with plants, animals, and environmental conditions that are ever changing. Consequently, many areas may contain species that biologists do not know about or species previously noted in a particular area may no longer occur there. Not all of Arizona has been surveyed for special status species, and surveys that have been conducted have varied greatly in scope and intensity.

Making available this information does not substitute for the Department's review of project proposals, and should not decrease our opportunities to review and evaluate new project proposals and sites. The Department is also concerned about other resource values, such as other wildlife, including game species, and wildlife-related recreation. The Department would appreciate the opportunity to provide an evaluation of impacts to wildlife or wildlife habitats associated with project activities occurring in the subject area, when specific details become available.

Ms. Eleanor R. Gladding

November 9, 2005

2

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at (602) 789-3606. General status information, county and watershed distribution lists and abstracts for some special status species are also available on our web site at <http://www.azgfd.gov/hdms>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ginger Ritter". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ginger L. Ritter

Project Evaluation Program Specialist

SSS:glr

Attachment

cc: Rebecca Davidson, Project Evaluation Program Supervisor
Russ Haughey, Habitat Program Manager, Region VI

AGFD # 11-07-05(09)

Special Status Species within 3 Miles of T6N, R1E Sec. 7 & 8

NAME	COMMON NAME	ESA	USFS	BLM	STATE
<i>Agave murpheyi</i>	Hohokam Agave	SC	S	S	HS
<i>Agosia chrysogaster</i>	Longfin Dace	SC		S	
<i>Bufo microscaphus</i>	Arizona Toad	SC	S		
<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>	Southwestern Willow Flycatcher	LE	S		WSC
<i>Gopherus agassizii</i> (Sonoran Population)	Sonoran Desert Tortoise	SC			WSC
<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bald Eagle	LT,PD	S		WSC
<i>Lasiurus blossevillii</i>	Western Red Bat				WSC
<i>Rana yavapaiensis</i>	Lowland Leopard Frog	SC	S		WSC

No Critical Habitats in project area. AGFD # 11-07-05(09). Proposed Marina Development.

Arizona Game and Fish Department, Heritage Data Management System, November 9, 2005.
Project Evaluation Program.

STATUS DEFINITIONS
ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT (AGFD)
HERITAGE DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (HDMS)

FEDERAL US STATUS

ESA **Endangered Species Act** (1973 as amended)
US Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service (<http://arizonaes.fws.gov>)

Listed

- LE** Listed Endangered: imminent jeopardy of extinction.
- LT** Listed Threatened: imminent jeopardy of becoming Endangered.
- XN** Experimental Nonessential population.

Proposed for Listing

- PE** Proposed Endangered.
- PT** Proposed Threatened.

Candidate (Notice of Review: 1999)

- C** Candidate. Species for which USFWS has sufficient information on biological vulnerability and threats to support proposals to list as Endangered or Threatened under ESA. However, proposed rules have not yet been issued because such actions are precluded at present by other listing activity.
- SC** Species of Concern. The terms "Species of Concern" or "Species at Risk" should be considered as terms-of-art that describe the entire realm of taxa whose conservation status may be of concern to the US Fish and Wildlife Service, but neither term has official status (currently all former C2 species).

Critical Habitat (check with state or regional USFWS office for location details)

- Y** Yes: Critical Habitat has been designated.
- P** Proposed: Critical Habitat has been proposed.

[**UN**No Status: certain populations of this taxon do not have designated status (check with state or regional USFWS office for details about which populations have designated status)].

USFS **US Forest Service** (1999 Animals, 1999 Plants: corrected 2000)
US Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Region 3 (<http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/>)

- S** Sensitive: those taxa occurring on National Forests in Arizona which are considered sensitive by the Regional Forester.

BLM **US Bureau of Land Management** (2000 Animals, 2000 Plants)
US Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Arizona State Office
(<http://azwww.az.blm.gov>)

- S** Sensitive: those taxa occurring on BLM Field Office Lands in Arizona which are considered sensitive by the Arizona State Office.
- P** Population: only those populations of Banded Gila monster (*Heloderma suspectum cinctum*) that occur north and west of the Colorado River, are considered sensitive by the Arizona State Office.

TRIBAL STATUS

NESL Navajo Endangered Species List (2000)

Navajo Nation, Navajo Fish and Wildlife Department

(<http://www.heritage.tnc.org/nhp/us/navajo/esl.html>)

The Navajo Endangered Species List contains taxa with status from the entire Navajo Nation which includes parts of Arizona, Utah, and New Mexico. In this notebook we provide NESL status for only those taxa whose distribution includes part or all of the Arizona portion of the Navajo Nation.

Groups

- 1 Those species or subspecies that no longer occur on the Navajo Nation.
- 2 Any species or subspecies which is in danger of being eliminated from all or a significant portion of its range on the Navajo Nation.
- 3 Any species or subspecies which is likely to become an endangered species, within the foreseeable future, throughout all or a significant portion of its range on the Navajo Nation.
- 4 Any species or subspecies for which the Navajo Fish and Wildlife Department (NF&WD) does not currently have sufficient information to support their being listed in Group 2 or Group 3 but has reason to consider them. The NF&WD will actively seek information on these species to determine if they warrant inclusion in a different group or removal from the list.

MEXICAN STATUS

MEX Mexican Federal Endangered Species List (October 16, 2000)

Proyecto de Norma Oficial Mexicana PROY-NOM-059-ECOL-2000

The Mexican Federal Endangered Species List contains taxa with status from the entire Mexican Republic and waters under its jurisdiction. In this notebook we provide MEX designations for only those taxa occurring in Arizona and also in Mexico.

- P** En Peligro de Extinción (Determined Endangered in Mexico): in danger of extinction.
- A** Amenazada (Determined Threatened in Mexico): could become endangered if factors causing habitat deterioration or population decline continue.
- Pr** Sujeta a Protección Especial (Determined Subject to Special Protection in Mexico): utilization limited due to reduced populations, restricted distribution, or to favor recovery and conservation of the taxon or associated taxa.
- E** Probablemente extinta en el medio silvestre (Probably extinct in the wild of Mexico): A native species whose individuals in the wild have disappeared, based on pertinent documentation and studies that prove it. The only existing individuals of the species are in captivity or outside the Mexican territory.

[|= One or more subspecies of this species has status in Mexico, but the HDMS does not track it at the subspecies level (most of these subspecies are endemic to Mexico). Please consult the NORMA Oficial Mexicana PROY-NOM-059-ECOL-2000 for details.]

STATE STATUS**STATE:****Plants - NPL Arizona Native Plant Law (1999)**

Arizona Department of Agriculture (<http://agriculture.state.az.us/PSD/nativeplants.htm>)

- HS** Highly Safeguarded: no collection allowed.
- SR** Salvage Restricted: collection only with permit.
- ER** Export Restricted: transport out of State prohibited.
- SA** Salvage Assessed: permits required to remove live trees.
- HR** Harvest Restricted: permits required to remove plant by-products.

Wildlife - WSCA Wildlife of Special Concern in Arizona (in prep)

-Arizona Game and Fish Department (<http://www.azgfd.com>)

- WSC** Wildlife of Special Concern in Arizona. Species whose occurrence in Arizona is or may be in jeopardy, or with known or perceived threats or population declines, as described by the Arizona Game and Fish Department's listing of Wildlife of Special Concern in Arizona (WSCA, in prep). Species indicated on printouts as WSC are currently the same as those in **Threatened Native Wildlife in Arizona (1988)**.